

Appln. No. 10/774, 886
Amendment Accompanying Request for
Continued Examination filed March 17, 2006
Response to Office Action mailed October 18, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 37-44 and 46-50 are pending in this application. Claims 37-38, 40, 42-46 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,764,043 Czosnowski (hereinafter, the "'043 Patent"). Claim 37, 39, 41, 47 and 49-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,695,365 to Kennedy, et al., (hereinafter, the "'365 Patent"). Claims 37, 44, 49 and 50 are independent. By this Amendment Accompanying Request for Continued Examination Claims 37, 44, 49 and 50 have been revised and Claim 45 has been cancelled.

The Examiner is thanked for the personal interview conducted on February 6, 2006, with Applicants' undersigned attorney, and the review of the draft amendment sent thereafter. This Amendment has been prepared in accordance with the discussion between the Examiner and Applicants' undersigned attorney during that interview and in accordance with the draft amendment sent to the Examiner on March 2, 2006.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 37-38, 40, 42-46 and 48 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the '043 Patent. Additionally, Claims 37, 39, 41, 47 and 49-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the '365 Patent. In the interests of speeding prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly distinguish the present invention from the prior art.

The Examiner stated that the '043 Patent discloses a data transmission cable adapted for use in a system for determining a connection pattern of data ports, which comprises a pair of jacks, a pair of adapter jackets, and a conductor extending between and electrically

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connected to each of the adapter jackets. The Examiner further stated that the '365 Patent discloses a data transmission cable adapted for use in a system for determining a connection pattern of data ports, which comprises a pair of jacks, a pair of adapted jackets, and a conductor electrically connected to each of the adapter jackets.

Applicant respectfully maintains that both the '043 Patent and '365 patent do not disclose a system like the present invention that utilizes a microprocessor that is adapted to transmit a monitoring signal to a first socket contact, where the monitoring signal is passed from a first socket contact to a first electrical contact, along a signal conductor to a second electrical contact, and from the second electrical to a second electrical contact, and from the second contact back to the microprocessor which utilizes the monitoring signal to automatically monitor and determine a connection pattern of data ports. In contrast, in the system disclosed in the '043 patent, a voltage is manually applied to a conductor to match the two ends of a patch cord. Unlike the monitoring signal of the present invention which passes through the data transmission cable, the voltage of the system disclosed in the '043 patent is not passed to a microprocessor for automatically determining a connection pattern of data ports. The claims have been amended more clearly indicate this distinction.

The use of a microprocessor in combination with the transmission cable of the present invention that is constructed to pass a monitoring signal back to the microprocessor to automatically monitor and determine a connection pattern of data ports clearly distinguishes this invention from prior art systems. Accordingly, the prior art fails to disclose the data transmission cable in the claimed invention. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

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For all the foregoing reasons, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding rejections have been addressed and are now overcome. Applicants further submit that all claims pending in this application are patentable over the prior art. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of those rejections and is respectfully requested.

Other than the extension fee authorized in the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), no fees are believed to be due. The Commissioner is nevertheless authorized to charge any fees now or hereafter due in this application to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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